

Activity:	State Conservation Grants Administration
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Activity Summary

Program Component	2002 Enacted	2003 Estimate	FY 2004			Change From 2003 (+/-)
			Uncontr/ Related Changes	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
State Conservation Grants Administration	3,900	5,400	+11	-1,400	4,011	-1,389
Total Requirements	3,900	5,400	+11	-1,400	4,011	-1,389

Authorization

16 U.S.C. 460l et.seq. Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Act of 1965, as amended

Draft DOI Outcome Goals Applicable to State Conservation Grants and Administration**Recreation****3.1 Improve Access to Appropriate Recreation Opportunities on DOI Managed or Partnered Lands and Waters**

State Conservation Grants Activities support this goal by providing and managing grants to States, improving their capacities to provide access for recreation and promoting recreation opportunities.

FY 2004 Base Program Overview

The **State Conservation Grants Administration** activity administers previously awarded and new grant projects in cooperation with State partners so as to ensure continuing accountability and compliance with applicable mandates. Tasks also include providing technical assistance to States in updating and/or developing their new outdoor recreation plans, training NPS and State staff, and conducting onsite reviews of potential recreation sites for compliance with program requirements. The overall grant workload is largely determined by whether new grant funds are appropriated and the size of such appropriation, as well as the number of grants that remain active at any given time.

Proactive fiduciary activities are conducted and include: inspecting or certifying project sites, negotiating and resolving ongoing conversion issues, closeout of active grants, processing grant billings, and the resolution of audit exceptions

Performance summary tables are found at the end of this Appropriation.

FY 2002 Program Performance Accomplishments

Among the more significant accomplishments in the area of grant administration during FY 2002 are the following:

- Provided technical assistance to States in updating and developing new plans, and continue training NPS and State staff.
- Conducted onsite reviews of 20 recreation sites to ensure compliance with program requirements, and on-site inspection of 757 recreation sites.
- Resolved five audit exceptions.
- Negotiated and resolving approximately 275 conversion issues.
- Closed out 34 active grants.

FY 2003 Program Performance (Based on FY 2003 President's Request)

Expectations for the grants administration program in Fiscal Year 2003 include:

- Providing technical assistance to States in updating and developing new plans, and continue training NPS and State staff.
- Conducting onsite reviews of potential recreation sites to ensure compliance with program requirements, and on-site inspection of 7,000 recreation sites.
- Resolving approximately five audit exceptions.
- Negotiating and resolving approximately 300 conversion issues.
- Close out 180 active grants.

Justification of FY 2004 Budget Request: State Conservation Grants Administration

Request Component	Amount
FY 2003 Budget Estimate	5,400
Programmatic Changes	
• State Conservation Grants Administration	-1,400
TOTAL, Program Changes	-1,400
Uncontrollable changes	+11
FY 2004 Budget Request	4,011
Net change	-1,389

State Conservation Grants Administration: -\$1.400 million

The Cooperative Conservation Program, which is requested in the FY 2003 President's Budget, is not proposed for FY 2004. The proposal included \$1.400 million for State Conservation Grants Administration. The initiative also included grants to states, as reflected in the State Conservation Grants Activity.

Workload Tables: State Conservation Grants Administration

State Conservation Grants Administration Workload Factors

Performance Measures	FY 2002 Actual	FY 2003 Estimate	FY 2004 Estimate
Sites inspected and certified operational	757	2,500 ¹	5,000 ¹
Sites threatened	275	300	300
Active grants completed and closed out	111	290	460
New grants awarded	691	780 ²	800

¹LWCF sites are to be inspected every five years. With over 35,000 sites funded under this program, the target for inspections by NPS staff and State partners is approximately 7,000 per year. The actual number depends upon the ability of State staff, within budget and staffing restrictions, to conduct on-site inspections and to process self-certification reports by individual project sponsors. Significant increases are anticipated in 2003 and 2004, as more states gear up to administer LWCF program responsibilities.

²Represents only recreation grants. Increase is anticipated as States develop capacity to administer grant programs. Does not include conservation grants under Cooperative Conservation Initiative program proposed in FY 2003.